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MADURA YOUNG MEN.

January 31, 1918.

A NEW YEAR THOUGHT.

To love some one more dearly every day,
To help a wandering child to find his way,
To ponder o'er a noble thought, and pray,
And smile when evening comes,—this is my task.

To follow truth as blind men seek for light,
To do my best from dawn of day till night,
To keep my heart fit for His holy sight,
And answer when He calls—this is my task.

We (the editorial "we," like charity, may cover a multitude of sins) regret extremely the unseemly lapse of time since our last issue, but we have formed a New Year's resolution on the subject which we are not going to tell ("silence is golden") but which we hope to show to our friends. Watch for the next number of the M.Y.M.

To all the members of the Madura Association, and to all our friends, we wish the happiest and best of New Years.

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Only the parents of a child realize how highly important is his first birthday; and only those who have watched and worked with the Association throughout the first year can understand the full significance of passing the first mile stone; but, nevertheless, a large number of people joined us in a very happy celebration of our First Birthday. The whole place had been tastefully decorated by a special committee, who are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

Outdoor sports, tea, and a good programme of speeches and music, were heartily enjoyed by the members and their guests. The Ladies' Auxiliary provided and served the refreshments. Mrs. Cooper the secretary of the L. A., made a neat speech in the course of the evening.

Our hearty thanks are due to all those who helped to make the occasion such a conspicuous success. So many helped, in one way or another, that we feel we cannot do justice to them in the limited space at our disposal.

THE CHRISTMAS SOCIAL.

A social was held on December 22 so that we might have an opportunity of wishing one another a merry Christmas. A heavy fall of rain, and the absence of the Ladies' Committee, were two depressing factors, but Christmas cheer is not easily dampened. The attendance was smaller than usual but that only made the refreshments more abundant, and an enjoyable evening was spent by those who were present.

THE BOYS' DEPARTMENT.

The recently organized Boys' Department has its own Club Room of which the boys are justly proud. There they thoroughly enjoy the special games which have been set aside for their use. On January 8 a lantern show was much appreciated by the Boys' Club. We understand that they do not wish to be crowded out; all boys, therefore, who wish to join should do so at once. Tuesday is the day of special features for this department.

SPORTS.

On November 3 there was a return match of Volley-ball between the American College and the Y.M.C.A. The game was exciting and was keenly enjoyed by a large number of spectators. The Association won.

We had the pleasure of a visit from the East Gate Men's Club on December 8. The whole afternoon was

spent in games. East Gate won in "Cock-fighting," Basket-ball, and Deck Billiards. The Association won in Volley-ball

There was not an extensive programme arranged for "Our Day" at the Y.M.C.A. as it was felt that we should throw in our lot with the celebration of it by Madura as a city. The boys of the school, however, had their special sports and programme.

On Thursday, January 17, there was a Volleyball match between the Hostel and the School Staff. The former won.

The General Secretary spent one afternoon lately, at the request of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools, demonstrating playground games to a group of 30 teachers. All the pedagogues enjoyed the games most heartily, and we hope that many boys will reap the benefit of the various new ways of combining fun and healthful recreation that were thus revealed.

These items are culled here and there from the Y M C.A diary. It should not be forgotten, however, that every day the games, both outdoor and indoor, are in demand. Spend an hour with us, forget your business cares or the impending examinations, and you will return to your work a new man.

DISCUSSION GROUPS.

The Debating Society.

A hearty invitation is given to young men to join the Association Debating Society. Mr. Thirumalai Iyengar is President, and Mr. Thiruvenkadathan, Secretary. The discussions are bright and give one good training for the serious debates that await us in days to come, and enable one to speak clearly, forcefully and logically. The committee are planning a good programme, but every member must cooperate in a society of this kind if it is to be a real success. The society meets on Friday evening at six o'clock.

Religious Discussion Groups.

A Junior group for the study of St. Mark's Gospel, meets on Monday evenings at 6 o'clock, under the leadership of Mr. D Ernest Much interest is shown, and we feel sure that those who join the group will be glad that they did so.

A Senior Group is meeting on Sunday afternoons at 4-30 and is discussing various topics suggested by Dr. Glover's book, "The Jesus of History, ". Mr G P. Bryce is the leader.

Neither of these groups meets to hear lectures, but all the members participate frankly in the discussion of the points of common interest that are raised at each session.

PUBLIC LECTURES.

The Y.M.C.A. school hall is not large enough to accommodate the audiences which assemble for the lectures given under the auspices of the Association so the lectures are now held in the Victoria Edward Hall. Every one has had an excellent attendance; not only has the Hall been well filled but those who have attended have included many of the leading citizens of Madura.

In November, Mr V. M Ilahi Baksh, B.A., B.T. spent several days in Madura in connection with the Association, and gave a number of addresses. From his wide experience, and from his years of study abroad, he had much to say that was of unusual interest. One Sunday he spoke in the Association building itself on "Young India's Opportunity." Mr. S. A. Shutie, B.A. kindly presided on that occasion. Mr. Baksh also spoke in other parts of the city at several places, including a lecture at Madura College on "American Student Life."

Mr. Baksh was followed by the Rev. R. H. Whelan, B.A. who brought with him excellent lantern slides, and was

heard with great attention at the Women's Exchange, the Railway Institute, and the Victoria Edward Hall. On the last mentioned occasion the chairman was Major D. Ganpat Rai, I.M.S. who made some very interesting remarks. The audience was large one.

On December 19, M.R.Ry. Srinivasachariar Avl., B.A., Municipal Chairman, presided at a lecture on the "The Romance of the History of Madura," given by no less an authority than M.R.Ry. L. K. Tulasiram Avl., B.A., B.L. The audience listened with obvious pleasure to the recital of various tales of the stirring times through which our city has passed and to the lecturer's lucid explanation of a number of old customs. We hope some day to see a volume from the pen of Mr. Tulasiram on this fascinating subject.

A number of other lectures have been arranged, extremely varied in their topics, to be given by gentlemen who are authorities on the subjects which they are to present. Further announcements will be made from time to time.

Current Topics Club of the Y.M.C.A.

WEDNESDAY LECTURES FEBRUARY AND MARCH.

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BROMIDE ENLARGEMENTS A SPECIALITY.

Sadhu Sunder Singh's Visit.

We have been especially fortunate in having in our midst a man with the wonderful personality of this Christian ascetic from the North. While he said little of his unusual personal experiences or of the mission which he carries on for six months of the year in Thibet, his message appealed most strongly to those who heard him. It is estimated that in the several meetings his audiences numbered at least three thousand five hundred. The meeting at Victoria Edward Hall was the most largely attended gathering ever held in that auditorium. Besides this meeting the special addresses in Pasumalai, Ponnagaram, Mangalapuram, the American College, and in East and West Gate Churches, small gatherings were held on Sunday for missionaries at the Secretary's bungalow, and for Christian graduates at the Y. M. C. A.

The meetings were arranged by a small special committee called together by the Association, as the officers of the Evangelistic Campaign happened to be particularly overloaded with engagements.

The visit has aroused great enthusiasm in the city. The Sadhu will always find a warm welcome in Madura

BOOKS ABOUT SADHU SUNDER SINGH.

"A Lover of the Cross". Price, Twelve Annas.

A book of thrilling incidents in the life of this wandering friar of North India and Thibet.

"Saved to Serve". Price Eight Annas.

This includes, along with other interesting material, an account of the teachings of the old Christian "Rishi" who lives among the snows of the Himalayas.

A PHOTOGRAPH OF SADHU SUNDER SINGH.

Few authentic photographs of the Sadhu exist. While in Madura, he was persuaded to permit himself to be "Imprisoned" in a picture. Copies of the resulting portrait —an exceleut likeness —are being made, and will be printed to order. Mounted photographs. **Price Twelve Annas.**

Books and photograph obtainable from.

D. ERNEST, Y.M.C.A., Main Guard Square, Madura.